

HONORING KATHY DIFIORE

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 1997

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Kathy DiFiore, of Ramsey, NJ, for the work she is doing on behalf of unwed mothers. Kathy is a dedicated and compassionate community leader who lends support to young women at a trying period in their lives. Her work is well-known across our State and has been supported by figures as prominent as former Gov. Tom Kean and the late Mother Teresa. We need more people like Kathy DiFiore to help with the issue of teen pregnancy.

More than a decade ago, Kathy opened a shelter for unwed mothers in her own, six-bedroom home. Today, she operates Several Sources Shelters, which has five homes for unwed mothers—two in Ramsey plus one each in Mendham, Newark, and Washington Township. Kathy a former Wall Street executive, has given thousands of women the moral and tangible support needed to bring their children into the world.

Even an effort as admirable as a shelter for unwed mothers does not succeed without overcoming obstacles. In 1984, State officials levied a \$10,000 fine against Kathy, claiming that her home—at that point a shelter—was being operated as an illegal boardinghouse. Similarly, Ramsey officials said it was unlikely she could be granted a zoning variance necessary to continue operation. The shelter's future was uncertain. Undaunted, Kathy convinced the State legislature to pass a bill allowing her to remain in operation, then-Governor Kean, however, was hesitant to sign the measure.

It was at that point that Kathy contacted Mother Teresa and asked her help. Mother Teresa responded and, in turn, contacted Governor Kean and urged him to sign the bill. Three days later, the legislation was law.

The Several Sources Foundation provides extensive counseling and information for pregnant women seeking an alternative to abortion and ultimately provides free shelter for expectant mothers and their children. The foundation has found that many young women, particularly teenagers, have no place to stay while pregnant. It is, tragically, not uncommon for angry parents to kick out their daughters upon learning that they are pregnant. The shelters allow mothers to stay during pregnancy and up to 1 year after the birth of a child. Each of the five shelters can house up to six mothers and their infants, supervised by an adult house mother.

Women who stay at the shelters are trained in the practical aspects of motherhood, including prenatal care and homemaking. School-age mothers attend high school and are tutored at the shelter during the last weeks of pregnancy. Women who have dropped out of school are assisted in passing their GED and are given classes in practical, employment-related skills such as typing. Some go on to college.

Several sources is a pro-life organization that offers a national telephone hotline for pregnant women. More than 200 women call the hotline each month and Kathy estimates that 15,000 abortions have been avoided

since she founded the organization. The group also offers information through a World Wide Web site on the Internet.

None of this could be done without help, of course. Kathy is assisted by a number of caring and dedicated volunteers, such as Donna Jacoby of Ridgewood. Others help the non-profit, nonsectarian organization through tax-deductible private donations and offerings at area churches.

Mr. Speaker, Kathy DiFiore is a deeply religious woman who has followed through on her Christian convictions. She communicated frequently with Mother Teresa, who served as her religious role model. She likes to say that it's necessary to pray the work. Her efforts might be described as working the prayer.

We need more people of deep conviction and conscience who do more than preach their morality and practice Christian charity in its truest form. Kathy DiFiore has transformed her convictions into action to help these women and children who are in greatest need, not only in daily care but also in educating and inspiring them to improve their lives and provide a promising, hopeful future for their newborn babies.

We all wish her renewed strength and inspiration so that many more might find life through her dedicated and devoted ministry.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 1997

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today I learned that the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee has scheduled a hearing on campaign finance reform for this Thursday, October 30. This is good news. I applaud Chairman BILL THOMAS for allowing this important issue to be given a proper hearing.

However, this is only the first step. Not only should campaign finance reform legislation be given a hearing, it also must come to the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives for a full debate and vote. The people of my district have told me repeatedly that they will not take no for an answer when it comes to changing the current campaign finance system. A hearing is not enough, the full House must be given a chance to vote on this issue.

Last week I joined 168 of my colleagues in signing a discharge petition on campaign finance legislation. It appears the pressure of that petition has forced the leadership of the House to schedule the hearing. I will urge my colleagues not to abandon the discharge effort until we are sure that a fair vote will be allowed on campaign finance reform.

With 2 weeks left before our expected adjournment for the year there is very little time left to consider this issue. I urge you to move quickly to bring a substantial reform bill before the House. I will not take no for an answer.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 1997

Mr. RYUN. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on the afternoon of October 23 and October 24 to attend the wedding of my oldest daughter.

I request unanimous consent that the record reflect that had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 525, "yes" on rollcall No. 529 and "no" on rollcall No. 531.

HONORING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 1997 PATHFINDER AWARDS**HON. CHET EDWARDS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 1997

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate 17 women from my Texas congressional district for being selected as recipients of the 1997 Pathfinder Award. These specially selected women from Waco and McLennan County have distinguished themselves through their unique service and contribution to the community.

Pathfinders is a special recognition program that honors outstanding women in McLennan County who have distinguished themselves in their chosen fields. Since 1984, the YMCA of Central Texas has honored 214 women with this distinguished tribute.

The women are selected for the honor based on three factors: First, they have served as an exemplary role model, second, they are a strong mentor for others, and third, have impacted lives for the good.

Receiving the 1997 Pathfinder Award are: Joyce Briehof will be recognized in the area of science/inventions, having been extensively involved with the Green Classroom Project at Kendrick Elementary School in Waco.

Lynn Bulmahn will be recognized in the area of communications. Her coverage of health-related subjects including teenage pregnancy and Alzheimer's disease have earned her numerous awards.

Margie Cintron is the recipient of the Pathfinder Award for public service. She has helped create 24 neighborhood associations in Waco, and provides technical support in accessing city, county, and other governmental services.

Mary Duty will be recognized in the area of business/finance. She recently lobbied the Texas Legislature for passage of a bill to keep tobacco products away from underage children.

Toni Herbert, a member of the Waco City Council, will be recognized in the area of politics. She began the Neighborhood Training Institute, as well as initiating the Neighborhood Development Program for the city of Waco.

Ella Janes McKinney will be recognized in the area of volunteerism. A lifelong member of the Austin Avenue United Methodist Church, she helped organize the Meals on Wheels Program her church operates.

Eugenie Mygdal will receive the Pathfinder Award for the arts. An active volunteer of the Waco Art Center and the Hillcrest Professional Development School, she is also a sculptress and artist.

June Osborne will be recognized in the area of conservation. She is an avid ornithologist has sought to heighten the awareness of children and adults about the importance of nature conservation.

Linda Reasoner, administrator of the Waco Covenant Academy, will be recognized in the area of non-traditional roles. She has also been active in the development of home schooling in Waco.

Pam Smallwood, education director of Planned Parenthood, is the recipient of the Pathfinder Award in health. She is the creator of the nationally recognized program, "Nobody's Fool: Dating, Love, Sex and AIDS."

Maretha Smith will be recognized in the area of humanitarian. She is the founder of the youth program, "Save of our Sons," an organization which seeks to provide a positive focus on the African-American male.

Dr. Rosanne Stripling, superintendent of the Waco Independent School District will be recognized in the area of education. Earlier this year, she was named the first female superintendent of the Waco ISD after having served in a number of other capacities as a professional educator.

Helen Thueson, director of victim services for the Waco Police Department will be recognized in the legal area for her efforts to help victims rebuild their lives after a traumatic crime has occurred.

Dr. Nancy Upton, director of the Entrepreneurship Center at Baylor University, will be recognized in the area of entrepreneurial enterprises. She is the only chairwoman of an endowed entrepreneur center in the United States.

Greta Warren Watson will be recognized in the area of civic leadership. A volunteer since in the late 1950's, her numerous activities include the Senate Ladies' Club, the League of Women Voters, and the Big Twelve Task Force.

Ina Mae Wilson will be recognized in the area of volunteerism. She has contributed over 1,900 hours to the Community Hospice Service in Waco, specializing in the area of bereavement.

Patricia Wood is the recipient of the Pathfinder Award in the area of religion. She has opened her home to numerous foreign exchange students in her church. I am proud to say she is my mother-in-law and devoted grandmother to my two sons, John Thomas and Garrison.

In addition, Bobbie Barnes is receiving the Rountree Athena Award for her leadership in the areas of historic research, education, and preservation. Her work will allow the rich history and culture of Waco to be passed on to future generations.

I ask Members to join me in honoring the recipients of these distinguished awards. These women have demonstrated the dedication and exhibited the excellence that make our communities strong and our country great.

TRIBUTE TO BRIG. GEN.
SALVATORE "SAL" VILLANO, JR.

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 1997

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, this November will see the retirement from the Colorado Air

National Guard of an individual I wish to commend.

Brig. Gen. Salvatore "Sal" Villano, Jr. brought to the National Guard a patriotic commitment to his country. But he also brought a strong desire to involve the Guard in the community it serves.

Sal Villano grew up in the part of my district known as North Denver. Anyone who knows North Denver knows it to be a neighborhood with a long history of strong family and ethnic ties. There Sal learned the value of honest work and spiritual integrity.

These values guided General Villano's rise in the Air National Guard. He saw it as his duty to lead with energy and integrity. But he saw it as his personal mission to have the Guard promote the general welfare while providing for the common defense of the Nation.

General Villano worked hard to bring armories to close-knit Colorado communities. The new Denver armory, conceived by Sal as an armory on the weekend and a neighborhood center during the week, is a good example of his vision to marry the Guard's mission with a community need. He pushed tirelessly to start innovative programs to turn troubled teens around. And, he took seriously his role to keep drugs off Colorado streets.

Mr. Speaker, America and the National Guard can learn a lesson from Gen. Sal Villano, a good kid from North Denver.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 22, 1997

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, we have made progress in the war on breast cancer and the tragedy it causes. Early detection and aggressive treatment have enabled countless women across our Nation to survive this terrible disease.

Yet, so much more remains to be done. Women continue to face a one in eight chance of developing breast cancer during their lifetimes. It remains the most frequent major cancer in women and the second leading cause of cancer deaths among women. Last year, an estimated 182,000 women were diagnosed with breast cancer and nearly 50,000 died of the disease.

The Federal Government's support for breast cancer research has grown significantly in the past 10 years. The grants funded by the National Cancer Institute are on the cutting edge of science and have made important contributions to our understanding of this complex disease and to treatment.

But because of a lack of funding, the National Cancer Institute is able to fund only a small percentage of the outstanding applications for research it receives. An estimated one out of every four grants that has been approved for funding by NCI's expert panels goes unfunded because of budgetary constraints. This is simply unacceptable.

We must increase our investment in breast cancer research. We know very little about how to prevent the disease and treatment options are too few. At least two-thirds of breast cancers occur in women with no known risk factors.

For example, we must gain a better understanding of the genetic basis of breast cancer, including more about the BRCA series of genes in Jewish women and others.

Another important area of research is the link between breast cancer and the environment. We need to know more about so-called endocrine disruptors that are used to make pesticides, and other products.

We also need to improve breast cancer detection. There are promising developments in new detection technologies such as magnetic resonance imaging and ultrasound which could eventually save countless lives.

Each woman affected by breast cancer is a mother or a daughter or a sister or an aunt. And by that standard, breast cancer has torn apart the lives of literally millions in our country.

Promising research remains unfunded and important questions are going unanswered. Yet, breast cancer is the most common cancer in women and the cause of so much anguish.

H.R. 1070, would increase breast cancer funding at the National Cancer Institute from \$410 to \$590 million, an increase of 40 percent.

This is a bipartisan bill which I introduced with CONNIE MORELLA. We have 57 cosponsors and the list grows every day. The bill is supported by both the American Cancer Society and the National Breast Cancer Coalition.

In addition to the vital work of the National Cancer Institute, the war against breast cancer is being fought by other Federal agencies. The excellent, innovative breast cancer research program at the Defense Department deserves continued congressional support.

We have increased access to and improved the quality and safety of mammography screening. I am pleased that on October 1, the FDA issued its final rules on the Mammography Quality Screening Act, a bill enacted in 1992 with the strong support of the Congressional Women's Caucus. All facilities should now be in compliance with the act and women should no longer need to worry about the quality of their mammogram.

In addition, the Federal Government has provided low-cost breast cancer screening for over 1 million women through the Center for Disease Control's breast and cervical cancer screening program. The budget for this program has increased from \$50 million in 1992 to \$140 million in 1997. It's now available in all 50 States and is supported by private partners such as Avon and the YWCA. Of course, we need to continue to expand the program and target those women who are the most difficult to reach because of language and cultural barriers. No women in our Nation who needs a mammogram should go without one.

Another important development at the national policy level has been the involvement of breast cancer advocates in decisions about how to allocate precious Federal research funds. Both at NIH and the Defense Department, advocates are adding a fresh perspective to review panels, helping scientists and administrators look at their research portfolios in important new ways. The National Cancer Institute has recently taken a significant step in this regard by involving advocates in its new breast cancer progress review group or PRG.

But we must also turn our attention to legal protections for breast cancer patients and other women who may develop breast cancer. I have introduced a bill, H.R. 2275, with Representative LAZIO to outlaw discrimination by